

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Control: 17290
Rec'd: OCTOBER 27, 1959
4:24 P.M.

FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 420, OCTOBER 27, 6 P.M.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 420; BONN 369; REPEATED INFORMATION PRIORITY
LONDON 125, PARIS 114, MOSCOW 137, POLAD USAREUR 41.

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, CINCEUR, THURSTON AND FINN.

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THIS IS FIRST PART OF THREE-PART MESSAGE.

REFERENCE: OURTEL 416 TO DEPARTMENT, 366 TO BONN.

ALLIED COMMANDANTS MET OCTOBER 27. DEPUTIES AND POLADS PRESENT.

COMMANDANTS AUTHORIZED DISPATCH OF FOLLOWING LETTER TO
WEST BERLIN POLICE PRESIDENT FROM CHAIRMAN (BRITISH) PUBLIC
SAFETY OFFICER, WITH COPY TO SENATOR LIPSCHITZ:

BEGIN TEXT

THE COMMANDANTS HAVE DIRECTED ME TO INFORM YOU THAT THEY HAVE
STUDIED THE PLAN FOR OPERATIONS ON THE S-BAHN WHICH YOU SUBMITTED
ON OCT. 16. THEY HAVE FOUND THE DETAILED REVIEW IN THIS PAPER
MOST USEFUL. THEY NOW WISH YOU TO PREPARE A DETAILED OPERATION
PLAN BASED UPON THE CONCEPTS AND DIRECTED AT THE OBJECTIVES
SET FORTH IN THE SUBSEQUENT PARAGRAPHS OF THIS LETTER.

WHEN FLAGS OF THE SO-CALLED GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC BEARING
THE HAMMER AND COMPASS DEVICE WERE HOISTED IN WEST BERLIN ON
OCT. 6 THE POLICE TOOK STEPS TO REMOVE THEM. THE COMMANDANTS
ENDORSED THIS ACTION AND INFORMED THE SOVIET COMMANDANT

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THAT THEY CONSIDERED THE HOISTING OF SUCH FLAGS IN WEST BERLIN TO BE A PROVOCATIVE ACT AND A THREAT TO THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER FOR WHICH THE ALLIED COMMANDANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE IN WEST BERLIN.

IT IS THEREFORE THE DECISION OF THE ALLIED COMMANDANTS THAT IF FLAGS OF THE SO-CALLED GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC BEARING THE HAMMER AND COMPASS DEVICE ARE AGAIN FLOWN IN WEST BERLIN, THEY MUST BE LOWERED IN ALL CASES WHERE THEY CONSTITUTE A PROVOCATION, I.E. IN ALL CASES WHERE THEY ARE VISIBLE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE NEXT OCCASION WHEN IT IS LIKELY THAT THESE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC FLAGS MAY BE HOISTED IS NOVEMBER 6-7. THE PLACE WHERE THE GREAT MAJORITY OF SUCH FLAGS IS LIKELY TO BE HOISTED IS UPON S-BAHN PROPERTY. BEARING THESE FACTS IN MIND, THE COMMANDANTS WOULD WISH YOUR PLAN TO BE DRAWN UP UPON THE FOLLOWING LINES:

(1) THE POLICE SHOULD INCREASE PATROLLING ACTIVITY UPON S-BAHN PROPERTY IN WEST BERLIN WITH EFFECT FROM THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 3. THEY SHOULD MAINTAIN SPECIAL OBSERVATION OF SELECTED AREAS FROM THE SAME DATE.

(2) IF SOVIET STATE FLAGS ARE HOISTED, NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM.

(3) THE PLAN SHOULD NOT BE DIRECTED TOWARD THE PREVENTION OF THE HOISTING OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC FLAGS,

(4) THE POLICE SHOULD TAKE NO ACTION TO REMOVE FLAGS ON S-BAHN TRAINS AND WATERCRAFT.

(5) THE POLICE SHOULD REMOVE SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM ALL INSTALLATIONS ALL FLAGS OF THE SO-CALLED GERMAN DEMOCRATIC

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REPUBLIC BEARING THE HAMMER AND COMPASS DEVICE WHICH
CONSTITUTE A PROVOCATION, I.E. ALL FLAGS VISIBLE TO THE
PUBLIC!

(6) THE POLICE SHOULD ALSO MAKE PROVISION FOR REMOVING SUCH
FLAGS IF THEY ARE RE-HOISTED.

(7) THE POLICE COMMAND STRUCTURE FOR THIS OPERATION SHOULD
BE THE STRUCTURE SET OUT IN EXISTING POLICE PLANS FOR DEALING
WITH CIVIL DISTURBANCES WHICH HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE
COMMANDANTS (THIS PLAN PROVIDES FULLY FOR VARIOUS DEGREES
OF POLICE ALERTS; THE RELEASE OF FORCE "B" TO THE POLICE;
THE USE OF HEAVIER TYPE WEAPONS).

I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD SEND ME COPIES OF A POLICE
OPERATIONAL PLAN ON THIS BASIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

LIGHTNER.

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